



**STATEMENT OF PROCEEDINGS FOR THE  
REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
LOS ANGELES COUNTY COMMISSION FOR  
WOMEN**

**KENNETH HAHN HALL OF ADMINISTRATION  
500 WEST TEMPLE STREET, ROOM 372  
LOS ANGELES, CA 90012  
<http://LACCW.lacounty.gov>**

**Monday, May 12, 2014**

**10:00 AM**

AUDIO LINK FOR THE ENTIRE MEETING. (14-2215)

**Attachments:**    [AUDIO](#)

Call to Order. (14-1491)

**President Veda E. Ward, Ph.D. called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m., and welcomed the Commissioners and guests to the meeting.**

Present:            President Veda E. Ward Ph.D., Vice President Becky A. Shevlin, Treasurer Charlotte Lesser, Commissioner Carolyn Aoki-Hyatt, Commissioner Dora de la Rosa,, Commissioner Reiko Duba, Commissioner Ana Maria Garcia, Commissioner Alice S. Petrossian, Commissioner Olivia G. Rodriguez and Commissioner Denita Willoughby

Excused:           Commissioner Norma L. Gallegos and Commissioner Gerda Govine Ed.D.

**I. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS**

1. Approval of Minutes for the meeting of April 14, 2014. (14-2130)

**On motion of Commissioner Olivia G. Rodriguez, seconded by Commissioner Charlotte Lesser, unanimously carried, the minutes of April 14, 2014 were approved.**

**Attachments:**    [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT](#)

2. Discussion, nomination and approval of the Commission for Women's 2015 "Women of the Year" awards Luncheon Committee members. (Continued from the meeting of April 14, 2014.) (14-1264)

**President Ward previously discussed the importance of having a committee formed prior to the retreat. To educate the Commissioners on**

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the role they will play on the committee and allow an opportunity for new commissioners to get involved.

Commissioners Ana Maria Garcia, Carolyn Aoki-Hyatt, Olivia G. Rodriguez, Denita Willoughby and Commissioner Alice S. Petrossian nominated themselves to work on the 2015 Woman of the Year (WOY) luncheon committee.

On motion of Vice President Becky A. Shevlin, seconded by Treasurer Charlotte Lesser and unanimously carried, Commissioner Alice S. Petrossian was appointed as the Chair of the WOY committee.

3. Discussion and Action regarding a possible name change of the "Girls at-Risk" Educational Scholarship Program. (Continued from the meeting of April 14, 2014) (14-1507)

President Ward stated that this item is regarding a procedural issue that was continued from the April 2014 meeting, which allows Commissioners the opportunity to review the names submitted.

Commissioner Petrossian thanked everyone for the name submittals and stated that Commissioner Rodriguez suggested that the Education committee meet to discuss the history behind the name "Girls at Risk" and decide if a name change is appropriate. Commissioner Petrossian also reported that the committee will arrange a conference call and review the names at the retreat.

4. Discussion and approval to send one additional Commissioner to attend the National Association of Commissions for Women's (NACW) conference and business meeting in Sarasota, Florida, to be held on July 23-26, 2014, in an amount not to exceed \$1,500.00. (14-2136)

President Ward stated that the budget includes expenses for one Commissioner to attend; approval of this item will allow an opportunity for an additional Commissioner to experience the conference.

President Ward shared her experience with attending the conference in 2013 and reiterated the importance of the Commissions bylaws and the issues that the Commission handles so the attendee will be well informed on the role of the Commission for Women.

Commissioner Willoughby added that having two representatives attend the conference will broaden the opportunity to obtain more information.

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**By common consent, there being no objection, this item was duly carried by the following vote:**

**Ayes:** 9 - President Veda E. Ward Ph.D., Vice President Becky A. Shevlin, Commissioner Carolyn Aoki-Hyatt, Commissioner Dora de la Rosa,, Commissioner Reiko Duba, Commissioner Ana Maria Garcia, Commissioner Alice S. Petrossian, Commissioner Olivia G. Rodriguez and Commissioner Denita Willoughby

**Noes:** 1 - Treasurer Charlotte Lesser

**Excused:** 2 - Commissioner Norma L. Gallegos and Commissioner Gerda Govine Ed.D.

## **II. REPORTS**

### **5. President's Report for May 2014.**

- Ticket exchange policy with other organizations
- 2014-15 meeting calendar and Retreat meeting location
- 2014 Leadership Conference attendees
- WOY Luncheon Survey results
- LACCW By-laws (14-2131)

**President Ward presented to the Commission for discussion that an attendee of the WOY luncheon inquired about the possibility of making an agreement between organizations to have two representatives attend each other's events. The discussion will be continued to the next meeting.**

**Commissioner Petrossian suggested changing the annual meeting schedule to represent the fiscal year calendar, reflecting from July 1, 2014 to June 30, 2015. Staff has been directed to prepare the 2014- 2015 calendar for the upcoming retreat.**

**President Ward addressed the Commission to confirm who will be attending the 2014 leadership conference. President Ward, Treasurer Lesser and Commissioner Rodriguez volunteered to attend.**

**Staff reported that we have received two responses from the survey. President Ward recommended that the surveys be distributed and collected the same day.**

**President Ward further reported that staff distributed a copy of the**

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**Commissions By-laws and encouraged the Commissioners to review their procedures.**

**Attachments:**    [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT-President](#)  
                              [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT-By-laws](#)

**6. Committee Reports for May 2014:**

Education Committee

Ratification of Commissioner Ana Maria Garcia as Education Committee member

Selection and approval of the 2014 "Girls at-Risk" Scholarship Award Recipients

Scholarship Awards Luncheon Presentation and Program

- Luncheon Committee (14-2132)

**There was a discussion on whether or not the Commission realized enough profit from the 2014 Women of the Year Awards and Scholarship Luncheon (WOY) to award the scholarship to all 11 applicants.**

**After discussion, on motion of Commissioner Alice S. Petrossian, seconded by Commissioner Dora De La Rosa, the Commission agreed to award scholarships to the top five candidates. Scholarships will also be awarded to the remaining six applicants if the Commission realized a profit of at least \$17,000 from the 2014 WOY Awards Luncheon.**

**Ayes:**    9 -    President Veda E. Ward Ph.D., Vice President Becky A. Shevlin, Treasurer Charlotte Lesser, Commissioner Carolyn Aoki-Hyatt, Commissioner Dora de la Rosa,, Commissioner Reiko Duba, Commissioner Ana Maria Garcia, Commissioner Alice S. Petrossian and Commissioner Denita Willoughby

**Noes:**    1 -    Commissioner Olivia G. Rodriguez

**Excused:**    2 -    Commissioner Norma L. Gallegos and Commissioner Gerda Govine Ed.D.

**7. Staff Report for May 2014. (14-2133)**

**There was no report presented.**

**III. PRESENTATIONS**

8. Presentation on the services and programs offered to young women by R.U.T.H. YouthBuild non-profit organization; and possible collaboration opportunities, by Michelle Miranda, Executive Director, R.U.T.H. YouthBuild. (14-2137)

**Ms. Michelle Miranda, Executive Director, presented a PowerPoint entitled “R.U.T.H. – Resilience, Unity, Transformation, Hope.” This presentation highlighted the following:**

- Mission
- The ladies they serve
- Purpose
- Holistic approach
  - Educate, social skills, career preparation
- Self-Sustainability
- Life support
- Community engagement
- Community partners

**Commissioner Duba thanked Ms. Miranda for the presentation and advised her that the Commissioners can support her organization by providing interview clothing and informed her that she can complete a request for funds forms.**

**Attachments:**    [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT](#)

**V. DISCUSSIONS**

9. Submission of Declaration of Candidacy Form for office term July 2014 to June 2016. (Continued from the meeting of April 12, 2014) (14-1266)

**President Ward reminded the Commissioners about the submittal of declaration for candidacy forms.**

**After discussion, on motion of Treasurer Charlotte Lesser, seconded by Commissioner Reiko Duba and unanimously carried, the deadline was extended to May 22, 2014.**

**Attachments:**    [DECLARATION OF CANDIDACY FORM](#)

10. Discussion and recommendations of potential speakers for the 2015 “*Women of the Year*” Awards Luncheon. (Continued from the meeting of April 12, 2014) (14-1267)

**President Ward stated that since the WOY committee has been formed,**

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**she advised the committee to take charge of this issue and come up with recommendations at the retreat.**

11. Discussion and recommendations to establish a mechanism to stay connected, follow-up and maintain appropriate data on the success rate of the scholarship program recipients. (Continued from the meeting of April 12, 2014) (14-1268)

**President Ward charged the Education committee to take the lead on this item and present a proposal at the retreat.**

12. Discussion and recommendations of effective ways to enlist college students to serve as interns and assist the Commission with data collection. (Continued from the meeting of April 12, 2014) (14-1269)

**President Ward presented to the Commission an opportunity to learn about and participate in an internship. Commissioner Rodriguez stated that Los Angeles County has guidelines to follow and there are only three universities that can participate.**

**President Ward directed staff to identify the three eligible universities, research guidelines/procedures and disseminate the information to the Commissioners through email.**

13. Discussion and consideration of adding a new office of "Communications Coordinator" to the Commission's Bylaws. (14-2155)

**President Ward stressed to the Commission the importance of this item and urged them to consider having a liaison between the Commission and staff to aid in assuring that the Commissioners receive the appropriate information in a timely manner.**

#### **IV. MISCELLANEOUS**

14. Commissioners' Announcements for April 2014. (Continued from the meeting of April 12, 2014) (14-1263)

**Commissioners Shevlin, Lesser, Willoughby, Rodriguez and Garcia shared various announcements with the Commission.**

#### **Matters Not Posted**

15. Matters not posted on the posted agenda, to be discussed and (if requested) referred to staff or placed on the agenda for action at a future meeting, or matters requiring immediate action because of an emergency situation or where the need to take action came to the attention of the Commission subsequent to the posting of the agenda. (14-1493)

**There were no matters presented for a future agenda.**

**Public Comment**

16. Opportunity for members of the public to address the Commission on items of interest that are within the jurisdiction of the Commission. (14-2134)

**Dr. Genevieve Clavreul addressed the Commission and shared a few articles.**

**Adjournment**

17. Adjournment for the meeting of Monday, May 12, 2014. (14-2135)

**The May 12, 2014 meeting was adjourned at 12:12 p.m.**